

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR IDENTIFICATION AND PRESENTATION OF STATISTICAL USAGE DATA FOR MESSAGING SYSTEMS

An apparatus and method for facilitating communication through a messaging system by
5 identifying times when a user of the system is most likely to be available for a messaging
session. The apparatus comprises an event monitor, a database, a usage processor, and a usage
indicator. The event monitor detects messaging system events and records information about
these events in the database. The usage processor retrieves the recorded information from the
database and uses the information to compile statistical usage data for a given user. The usage
10 indicator then displays the statistical usage data in a summary format to an end user. In the
preferred embodiment, the event monitor, usage processor, and usage indicators are all
implemented as computer instructions. These three components may be executed independently
of each other, or they may be integrated into a single computer program. Similarly, each
component may operate independently or be integrated into an existing messaging system.

15